

SIX MISSING—AND BROMLEY PAY THE PRICE AT WYCOMBE

WYCOMBE WANDERERS 5, BROMLEY 0

ALL Bromley's bright hopes for a more successful season were washed away in the opening game of their Isthmian League campaign at Loakes Park on Saturday.

But it was a very scratch Bromley side—six first-teamers, Gaston, Rhodes, Proud, Green, Nottage and Pat Brown were all missing for various reasons—who went down to powerful Wycombe, who are always doubly difficult to beat on their own notoriously sloping pitch.

Under cover of a continual downpour, Wycombe Wanderers pressed from the start, first scored late in the opening half, and then proceeded to the biggest win of the competition's first Saturday.

It might even have been bigger, but for tricky conditions, several missed chances, and an overabundance of Bromley brawn.

The visitors' new men on show seemed to offer little extra to strengthen their side.

The one ray of sunshine was moustachioed John Mears, much faster than would be supposed from his heavy frame, who gave Wanderers' right back Lou Temel a fair share of trouble on the left flank.

Inside right, Wawrzewski worked quietly in his debut, while goalkeeper David Jensen unhappily had no such opportunity.

Jensen, Bromley's close-season signing from Athenian League Carshalton Athletic, ran up against a lively Wycombe attack, the potential of which was obvious.

Indeed, had their young number nine Viv Busby, reproduced the scintillating form he showed in a mid-week friendly against Wimbledon—a performance that ensured his place in this first game—anything might have happened.

THREATENING

Instead, Busby was dangerous only in spells. But ever threatening Tony Horseman produced an uncharacteristically high work-rate, and, with little to worry them, the Wycombe defence all ventured into the frontline at one time or another.

Under sustained pressure, Brom-

ley broke twice in three minutes.

After failing with a first-time shot, Busby managed to line-up a second try for the opening goal on 32 minutes.

But it was Horseman who shattered the visitors in the 35th minute with a flier unleashed from 30 yards out that Jensen knew nothing about.

BAD SPELL

Two-up by the interval, Wanderers had an early burst then went through one of their now-familiar second half bad spells.

Bromley introduced another new man, C. Brown, as substitute for Farmer at spearhead after 57 minutes, but it made little difference.

Right wing maestro Len Worley instigated Wycombe's third, dispatching a 66th minute free kick straight to Bobby Hatt, the former Slough Town mid-field player to head home.

And eight minutes later Worley again set up a goal, this time for Horseman, who banged in the rebound of a Worley shot after a defenders deflection.

Number five, scored a minute from time, gave the speedy Geoff Anthony a debut Isthmian League goal as he found himself clear, and chipped coolly over Jensen.

Wycombe Wanderers. — Maskell, Temel, Gale, Rundle, Delaney, Hatt, Worley, Lailey, Busby, Horseman, Anthony.

Bromley. — Jensen, Bridge, Mills, Bonney, Head, Wigham, Pettit, Wawrzewski, Farmer, Stonebridge, Mears. Sub: C. Brown.